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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/826,774	04/16/2004	Wayne Rollins Hansen	14374.111	1290

22913 7590 05/22/2006

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EXAMINER

PRASAD, CHANDRIKA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 05/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/826,774

Applicant(s)

HANSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Chandrika Prasad

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-17, 28-37, is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-13 and 18-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 4/19/06 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendments

1. The reply filed 4/19/06 consists of changes in the specification, changes in the drawings and remarks related to rejection of claims. The claims are not allowable as described below.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because of the followings.
- In Figure 1: Elements shows by reference numerals 204 are not consistent. One reference numeral 204 with lead line without arrow points out to a specific element whereas the other reference numeral 204 with lead line with an arrow points out to the entire assembly.
 - In Figures 2A and 3A: There are two elements in the rightmost portion shown with different hatching, one (numbered 312 in Figure 2A and one numbered 404 in Figure 3A) has hatch line different than those of another just below elements numbered 312 and 404. It is not clear what does the other element belongs to and why there is a gap between these two different elements.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and

Art Unit: 2839

where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. The amended title does not reflect the invention as claimed. None of the independent claims 1, 6, 13 or 24 refer to arc protection.

A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 18, 19, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dechelette (4737122).

Dechelette (Figures 1-8) shows an electrical cable assembly having a cable 16 with a plurality of conductors 14 attached to a metal fitting 60 of an elbow configuration, and a terminal 12 with a resilient non-electrically conductive conical terminal element with a first end attached to the fitting and a second end with a plurality of electrical contacts 50 in electrical communication with conductors of the cable wherein a joint (the contact between external 20 and internal surface 42') between the terminal and the fitting resides within a receptacle 66. The cable assembly is attached to a receptacle by a connector 92 and an annular circular groove at the joint between the fitting and the terminal to control diametrical expansion of the terminal element.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 3, 10 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dechelette (4737122).

Dechelette discloses all the features of these claims except the material of the terminal element being rubber, nylon, silicon or polytetrafluoroethylene. Such materials are well known and widely used in the art of electrical connectors. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to make the terminal element of one of these materials, since it has been held to be within the

Art Unit: 2839

general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416..

8. Claims 5, 12 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dechelette (4737122).

Dechelette discloses all the features of these claims except an additional terminal attached to the cable. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide a plurality of terminals because this would require a mere duplication of essential parts, which involve only routine skill in the art. St. Regis Co. vs. Bemis co., 193 USPQ 8.

9. Claims 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dechelette (4737122) in view of Tang (20030087553).

Dechelette discloses all the features of these claims except a conductive element between the electrical contacts 50 and the conductors of the cable. Such a feature is well known in the art of electrical connectors. Tang shows such a feature (a ferrule 3 with conductive elements 33, 35 between a cable conductor and electrical contacts. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide such a feature as shown by Tang to connect electrical conductors of a cable to electrical contacts.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments filed 4/19/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Reference numbers have been included in the rejection for the fitting, joint and the terminal.

Conclusion

11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

12. Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:

**Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrika Prasad whose telephone number is (571) 272-2099. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor can be reached at (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax number is (703) 872-9306.



Chandrika Prasad
Primary examiner
May 15, 2006